

Bhakoot Dosha & Married Life

Dr. S.P. Gaur, Gurgaon

Bhakoot controls the mind. In match making, Bhakoot suggests the pair's compability of achieving good health, mutual understanding, happiness, longevity and prosperity to live a happy life together. Rashis are controlled by chandra, they affect the love and romance aspect of the marriage. Bhakoot Dosha affects chances of fertility, pregnanacy, cause trouble in conceiving and delay in having children. Let us see, how Bhakoot Dosha can affect a married life.

I. Ashtakoot Milan System for Matching

In north India, Ashtakoot Milan system is widely used for matching the horoscopes of the boy and the girl, intending to marry, so as to find out compatability between them for a successful marital life. It is a simple system, easy to apply and easy to comprehend because the compatability is worked out in exact number or a score. The following eight factors are considered and their weightage is in increasing order as can be seen from the number of Gunas alloted to them :

Ashtakoot Factor	Number of Gunas
1. Varna	1
2. Vashya	2
3. Tara	3
4. Yoni	4
5. Graha Maitri	5
6. Gana	6
7. Bhakoot	7
8. Nadi	8
Total	**36**

The last three kootas are obviously very important because they account for more than 50% of the total score of 36. In this article, the emphasis is on Bhakoot or Rashikoot which carries 7 points or roughty 20% of the total score. Bhakoot Dosha in matching is considered a mahadosha along with Nadi and Gana Doshas.

II. Types of Bhakoot and Bhakoot Guna Table

Bhakoot or Rashikoot is the relative and mutual Rashi dispositions of the bride and bridegroom which is based upon number counted from one Rashi to another. The following combinations are possible.

1/1, 1/7, 2/12, 3/11,4/10, 5/9 and 6/8

These combinations are bifurcated into auspicious and inauspicious as follows :

Auspicious (Sadbhakoot): 1/1, 1/7, 3/11, 4/10

Inauspicious (Dushtabhakoot) : 2/12, 5/9, 6/8

If the Rashis of the bride and bridegroom are 2/12, 5/9 or 6/8 from each other, then the Bhakoot score is nil out of 7 points. On the other hand if their respective Rashi dispositions are 1/1, 1/7, 3/11 or 4/10, then full 7 points are scored.

Table for Bhakoot Guna

Sign	Ar	Ta	Ge	Ca	Le	Vi	Li	Sc	Sa	Ca	Aq	Pi
Ari	7	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	7	0
Tau	0	7	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	7
Gem	7	0	7	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	7
Can	7	7	0	7	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	0
Leo	0	7	7	0	7	0	7	7	0	0	7	0
Vir	0	0	7	7	0	7	0	7	7	0	0	7
Lib	7	0	0	7	7	0	7	0	7	7	0	0
Sco	0	7	0	0	7	7	0	7	0	7	7	0
Sag	0	0	7	0	0	7	7	0	7	0	7	7
Cap	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	7	0	7	0	7
Aqu	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	7	0	7	0
Pis	0	7	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	7	0	7

This table is given in the books of Muhurta and matching of horoscopes and is used by all the panchang compilers and matching software maters. This table does not take into consideration any factor responsible for cancellation of Bhakoot Dosha.

III. Ill Effects of Dushta Bhakoot or bhakoot Dosha

Dushta Bhakoot are of three types :

(i) Dwirdwadash or 2/12 position of Rashis

(ii) Nav Pancham or 9/5 position of Rashis

(iii) Shadashtaka or 6/8 position of Rashis

मृत्युषडष्टके ज्ञेयोऽपत्यहानिर्नवात्मजे।
द्विर्द्वादशे निर्धनत्वं द्वयोरन्यत्र सौख्यकृत्।।
मुहूर्तचिन्तामणि (31)
षडष्टके मृत्युः, नवात्मजे अपत्यहानिः स्यात्।
द्विर्द्वादशेद्वयोः (कन्यावरयोः) निर्धनत्वं स्यात्।
अन्यत्र सौख्यकृत् भवेत।।

According to this shloka of Ramacharya's Muhurta chintamani treatise, 6/8 Rashi positions of bride and bridegroom from each other, results in death, 9/5 position in loss of progeny and 2/12 position would cause poverty. Other dispositions or Sadbhakoot would give marital happiness.

The reasons for such ill effects can be traced to the houses represented by Dushta Bhakoot dispositions. Thus 6/8 or Shadashtaka relates to death, accident or serious illness. Navpancham or 9/5 disposition would direct the couple to religious activities thereby neglecting physical relationship and hampering birth of children. Dwirdwadash or 2/12 disposition would cause excessive expenditure and reducing the couple's financial position to poverty.

IV. Parihar or Cancellation of bhakoot Dosha

It might be a well thoughout strategy or a style that our ancient scholars would first predcit dreadful results of a malefic combination and then simultaneously offer liberal antidotes to nullify the highly serious repercussions predicted earlier. For example first they would say marriage of a manglik person to a non - manglik would result in death of the non - manglik and then come out with dozens of exceptions cancelling the manglik dosha.

The same stragegy is equally applicable not only to Bhakoot Dosha but nadi and Gana Dosha as well. This can be appreciated from the exceptions quoted from classical books on Muhurta astrology in the following paragraphs.

प्रोक्रे दुष्टभकूटके परिणयस्त्वेकाधिपत्ये शुभोऽथो
राशीधरसौहृदेऽपि गदितो नाऽयृक्षशुद्धिर्भदि।
अन्यर्क्षेशपयोर्बलित्वसखिते नाड्यृक्षशुद्धौ तथा
ताराशुद्धिवशेन राशिवशताभावे तिरुक्रो बुधैः।।
मुहूर्तचिन्तामणि (32)

That means in the earlier stated Dushta Bhakootas, (6/8, 5/9, 2/12) if the Rashi lords of the bride and bridegroom are mutual friends or Rashilord is the same planet then marriag would be auspicious. If Nadi koot is pure (no Nadi dosha) and Navamsha lords are friends, marriage would be auspicious. If nadi Nakshatra is faultfree though Tara Shuddi may not be there even then the marriage would be auspicious or happy.

न वर्गवर्णौ न गणोः न योनिर्द्विद्वादशे चैव षडाष्टके वा।
तारा विरुद्धे नव पंचमे वा मैत्री यदा स्यात् शुभदो विवाहः।।
बृहज्योतिष सार

If Rashi lords are same or mutual friends then all doshas such as Varna, Vashya, Tara, Yoni, Gana and Dushta Bhakoot viz. 6/8, 9/5 and 2/12 are permissible and marriage would be auspicious.

वरस्य पंचमे कन्या, कन्यायां नवमे वरः।
एतत् त्रिकोणकं ग्राह्यां पुत्रपौत्र सुखावहम्।।

If brides Rashi is fifth from that of the bridegroom, or alternately bridegrooms Rashi is ninth from that of the bride, then such a marriage would result in blessings with birth of sons and grandsons.

मीनालिभ्यां भुते कीटे कुम्मे मिथुन संगते।
मकरे कन्यकाभुक्ते न कुर्यान्न वजचमे।।– शार्गंधर

Among Nav Pancham (9/5) Dushta Bhakoot, Pisces-Cancer, Scorpio0Cancer, Gemini-Aquarius, and Virgo-Capricorn combinations be specially avoided.

मकरे कर्कटे चैव कुम्भे सिंहे तथैव च।
परस्परं सप्तमे च वैधव्यं तु विनिर्दिशेत्।। – ज्योतिर्निबन्ध

This makes exception to the Sad Bhakoot of 4/10 and 1/7 disapproves dispositions of capricorn Cancer and Aquarius - Leo which may result in widowhood.

V. Purpose of the field study and stragegy

Bhakoot is one of the Mahadoshas carrying 7 points, being next only to Nadi Mahadosha with 8 points. Its repurcussions are as bad as of the Nadi Dosha. The purpose of the field study was to ascertain whether in actual life also, these serious effects are experienced fully or even partly, given the enormous changes that have taken place in our lives compared to the past period when these rules were enunciated by ancient sholars of astrology.

A format was devised to obtain information of married couples regarding their date, time and place of birth, date of marriage, options for reporting their married life quality out of excellent, good, average, below average or bad, birth of children, major accident

operation or serious illness sufferred by husband, wife or children or any other vital information about their married life. Data was obtained from 200 married couples and Bhakoot Dosha was looked into. Out of 200 couples, 92 of them had Bhakoot Dosha. They were further segregated into 3 types viz. Dwirdwadash (2/12), Nav Pancham (9/5) and Shadashtka (6/8) and analysed to find out their quality of married life vis a vis the ill effects pronounced in classical text books.

A summary of the findings is presented in the following paragraphs.

VI. Findings of the Field Study

Total number of married couples : 200

Number of those with Bhakoot Dosha : 92

Dwirdwadash 2/12 cases : 27

Nav Pancham 9/5 cases : 30

Shadashtaka 6/8 cases : 35

(a) Dwirdwadash - 2/12 cases:Quality of Married life

	Where Bhakoot Dosha found Cancelled		Bhakoot Dosha Not Cancelled		Total	
Category	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Excellent	5	35.71	3	23.08	8	29.63
Good	6	42.86	6	46.15	12	44.44
Average	3	21.43	3	23.08	6	22.22
Below Avg.	-	-	1	7.69	1	3.71
Bad	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	14	100%	13	100%	27	100%

The ill effect of 2/12 Dosha is that the couple would be facing poverty because of heavy expences they would have to incur post marriage. But on the contrary 74.07% of the couples were having an exellent or Good married life, which was not possible, had they been poor or heavity indebted. If average is also clubbed up with Excellent and Good category cases, the percentage goes upto 96.29%.

The cancellation of Bhakoot Dosha has been taken on the basis of mutual friendship of Rashi lords or there being a common Rashi lord of husband and wife. But there is no significant difference in the results where Bhakoot Dosha was not cancelled.

Category	Dosha cancelled	Dosha not cancelled	Total
Excellent + Good	78.57%	69.23%	74.07
Excellent + Good + Avg.	100.00%	92.31%	96.29

(b) Nav Pancham-9/5 cases : Quality of Married Life

	Where Bhakoot Dosha found Cancelled		Bhakoot Dosha Not Cancelled		Total	
Category	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Excellent	7	46.67	4	26.67	11	36.67
Good	7	46.67	5	33.33	12	40.00
Average	1	6.66	2	13.33	3	10.00
Below Avg.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bad	-	-	4	26.67	4	13.33
Total	15	100	15	100	30	100
No Child	1	6.66	1	6.66	2	6.66

The major repurcussion of 9/5 Dosha is that there would be loss of progeny or the couple would be too much engrossed in spritual and religious activities and would not be interested in physical relationship. But here also the facts are different. 28 out of 30 couples had children born in time, only in 2 cases no child was born within 3 years after marriage.

76.67% were leading a happy married life under excellent and good categories and the percentage goes up to 86.67 if average category is also included. The Dosha was found cancelled in 50% cases when the wife's Moon Rashi was 5th from husbands Rashi. here the question of mutual friendship of Rashi lords was abondoned because trine lords always happen to be friends and so on this basis cancellation of Dosha would be 100%.

Category	Dosha cancelled	Dosha not cancelled	Total
Excellent + Good	93.34%	60.00%	76.67
Excellent + Good + Avg.	100.00%	73.33%	86.67

In this case there is oppreciable difference between the categories where Dosha was cancelled and where dosha was not cancelled because 26.67% cases under negative quality belong to category.

In 14.28% cases one of the partners suffered from serious disease or met some accident or had to under go some medical operation, Death occured in only one case due to electric shock.

Cancellation of Dosha was based upon mutual friendship of Rashi lords or same planet being Rashi lord for both husband and wife.

Category	Dosha cancelled	Dosha not cancelled	Total

Excellent + Good	55.56%	52.94%	54.29
Excellent + Good + Avg.	77.78%	82.35%	80.00
Accident/ Operation or Serious Illness cases	11.11	17.65	14.28

There is no appreciable difference in the quality of married life whether 6/8 Dosha is cancelled or not cancelled as can be seen from th above table. But compared to 2/12 and 9/5 Dosha categories the percentage of Excellent + Good quality of married life has come down appreciably. This is shown in the table below :

Category	2/12 Dosha	9/5 Dosha	6/8 Dosha	Total
Excellent + Good	74.07%	76.67%	54.29	67.39
Excellent + Good + Avg.	96.29%	86.67%	80.00	86.96

The percentages calculated in the above table are based upon the consolidated cases under different categories as given below :

Category	2/12 cases	9/5 cases	6/8 cases	No.	Total %
Excellent	8	11	11	30	32.61
Good	12	12	8	32	34.78
Average	6	3	9	18	19.57
Below Avg.	1	-	5	6	6.52
Bad	-	4	2	6	6.52
Total	27	30	35	92	100
	29.35%	32.61%	38.04%		100%

VII. Conclusion

The various refrences drawn from this field study are summarized below :

(a) 46% of the married couples were found to have Bhakoot Dosha in Ashtakoot milan. Out of them the percentage of Shadashtaka (6/8) was more than average at 38.04%.

(b) In all the categories viz. 2/12, 9/5 and 6/8, nearly 50% of them cases had cancellation of Dosha.

(c) In Nav Pancham - 9/5 cases, all cases can be said to have cancellation of Dosha on the basis of mutual friendship of Rashi lords.

(d) The quality of married life did not suffer despite non cancellation or cancellation of dosha. While 67.39% had Excellent or Good married life, only 13.04% fell into below average or bad categories.

(e) Under 2/12 category 74.07% reported Excellent or Good married life, only 3.71% had unsatisfactory life, hence the incidence of excessive expenditure or poverty was a far cry.

(f) under 9/5 category, contrary to the belief, all the 30 couples, except 2, had children timely born. In one case, marriage took place in 1985, in another marriage was done in 2007 and 3 years had passed since marriage when survey was done. Otherwise 76.67% couples reported their marriage under excellent and Good category.

(g) Under 6/8 category, percentage under Excellent and Good quality marriage was comparatively low at 54.29%, though this percentage improved to 80% if Average quality cases were added. Percentage of unsatisfactory marriage was also comparatively higher at 20%. In 14.28% cases one of the partners had sufferred from serious diseases, accident or operations. Only one accidental death took place out of 35 cases.

(h) Cancellation of Bhakoot Dosha did not have any perceptible impact on the quality of married life compared to the cases where dosha was cancelled.

On the basis of the foregoing analysis of real life cases of Bhakoot Dosha. I am inclined, to conclude that whatever serious ill effects are mentioned in the classical Muhurta Granthas, the same could not be verified in actual lives. Despite Bhakoot Dosha, a good majority of the couples were leading a happy and successful married life. Cancellation or non-cancellation of Bhakoot Dosha was also immaterial.

The sample size of this field study was moderate. I urge upon the serious students of astrology to conduct similar studies at their level on larger scale so as to establish the truth about popular perceptions of Ashtakoot Milan parameters.

I also appeal to the Panchang publishers, writers and software makers of astrology to add back the Gunas or points of Mahadoshas in the Guna Milan Tables, when anyone of them gets cancelled as per established principles. This would be of immense value for those sections of general public, who rely completely on match making, software or Ashtakoot Milan table for a 'Yes' or No on a marriage proposal out of their seer ignorance, instead of consulting a qualified astrologer. ❒